

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 3, line 7 and ending at line 22.

According to a first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of manufacturing an airtight container, including the steps of: setting a member for defining an airtight space together with a substrate to abut on the substrate; supplying a seal bonding material to a corner portion formed by the substrate and the member or a portion to be the corner portion by formed in the setting step; and, after the step of setting the member to abut on the substrate, forming a closed bonding line by performing airtight bonding of each of the substrate and the member with the seal bonding material by locally heating the seal bonding material to a temperature equal to or higher than a temperature that allows the airtight bonding and then curing the seal bonding material.

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 7, line 14 and ending at page 8, line 2.

In each of the above-described aspects of the invention, a construction may be suitably adopted in which the closed bonding line is formed by performing the bonding for each small region at a time. The above-mentioned operation of forming the closed bonding line by performing the bonding for each small region at a time refers to forming the closed bonding line part by part. Cases where the bonding is performed for each small region at a time includes a case where the bonding is performed while continuously changing the location that is subject to

bonding. Further, although a construction may be suitably adopted in which the small region subject to bonding is successively changed along the position where the bonding line is to be formed, the present invention is not limited to this construction.

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 8, line 18 and ending at line 26.

Further, in each of the above-described aspects of the invention, there may be suitably adopted a construction in which the seal bonding material is melted by means of the local heating means while being dispensed from a seal bonding material supplying means, or a construction in which the melted seal bonding material is dispensed from the local heating means to be supplied to the corner portion.

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 16, line 12 and ending at line 26.

Fig. 1A shows an assembling step, in which a member used to define an airtight space together with a substrate is abutted on the substrate under a vacuum atmosphere to form a corner portion 12. In this embodiment mode, the substrate is a rear plate 2 constituting an image forming apparatus, and the member for defining the airtight space together with the rear plate 2 is a glass outer frame 3 fixed to a face plate 1 constituting the image forming apparatus. That is, the rear plate 2 and the face plate 1 are a pair of substrates that are opposed to each other, and the glass outer frame 3 are is bonded and fixed to the face plate 1 in an upright fashion, with

an end face of the glass outer frame being abutted on the rear plate 2 to form the corner portion 12.

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 18, line 10 and ending at page 19, line 3.

Instead of performing the series of steps under a vacuum atmosphere, it is also possible to use a method in which an exhaust port (not shown) is attached to a given area of the airtight container to be manufactured and the exhaust port is sealed after producing a vacuum atmosphere by evacuating the interior of the airtight container through the exhaust port.

However, In is used as the seal bonding material in this embodiment mode, and since In oxidizes relatively easily in the atmosphere, it is desirable to perform the series of steps under a vacuum atmosphere. This is because a thick surface oxide film is formed when metal In is melted in the atmosphere, and indium oxide is harder than pure indium, so that airtightness may be impaired. Even when using another seal bonding material such as indium alloy or another metal or alloy thereof, the seal bonding material may still be prone to the influence of the atmosphere. Thus, the heating step for effecting the bonding is desirably performed under a vacuum atmosphere.

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 27, line 26 and ending at page 28, line 3.

First, using a ~~frit~~ frit glass 6, the glass outer frame 3 is bonded and fixed to the face plate 1 in an upright fashion, with an end face of the glass outer frame 3 being abutted on the rear plate 2 to form the corner portion 12.

Please substitute the following paragraph for the paragraph starting at page 41, line 4 and ending at line 12.

Fig. 9 shows an example of an image display apparatus according to the present invention. Wiring electrodes are formed in matrix on the surface of the rear plate 2, and an electron-emitting device 97 is provided to each pixel. The glass outer frame 3 and the face plate 1 are bonded to each other by means of the ~~frit~~ frit glass 6, and the glass outer frame 3 and the rear plate 2 are bonded to each other in the corner portion by means of metal In.